



GREATNESS OF UNITED STATES

Interesting Communication From the Florida Man.

TAKES IN THE SIGHTS

B. F. Hardesty Writes Enthusiastically of the Educational Advantages of a Visit to Washington.

EDITOR TRIBUNE:

In my remarks about the shady, grassy, flowery, watery parks, circles and fountains, in my last, I neglected one important thing. It is this: Only on a few of the United States Government green places do you see the sign "keep off." All over the city at all hours of the day especially in the morning, you can see the children playing games and chasing each other on the grass with perfect freedom, but no one is allowed to break the trees, shrubs or flowers on any account.

I can conceive of no one thing, nor for that matter, any number of things, that will so impress any one with the greatness of our country as a prolonged visit to Washington, and going through the White House, Capitol, Congressional Library, National Museum, Smithsonian Institute, Botanical Gardens, and the "Departments."

If this exalted idea of our greatness as a people were the only result of our observations here, it would pay for the visit. But this not the only result. To an observing man or woman, youth or maiden, whether of liberal education or of contracted information, the educative results are only to be determined by their length of stay and desire to learn. To point the moral of this assertion, at the National Museum in the rooms set aside for "Comparative Anatomy," I met Y. L. Powell, professor of geology at Newborn College, South Carolina.

We got into conversation while inspecting and taking notes on the skeletons of the great collection of Dinosaurs there exhibited. This gentleman, who was manifestly learned in geology, zoology and the kindred ologies, was just as deeply interested in what was to be seen and learned as your far less informed correspondent. On the other hand I met with scores of people, who, with pencil and note book, and eyes and mouth, were making the most of the opportunity, and when after reading and noting what is on the printed cards attached to the different specimens, and listening to the remarks of the attendants were quick to ask you questions to attain all the information possible. So my statement as to the educative possibilities of a trip to Washington is abundantly proven. Continuing the subject, I wish to say, as an educator of many years, and who from early childhood has always put the highest possible estimate on education per se as well as for its resultant power, there is no way in which a parent or guardian of a bright youth or maiden can realize the value of a larger or more beneficial return than a liberal visit to Washington under a competent chaperon, and wish to say, too, that as a tax payer I am willing to submit to a special tax to give this trip to the best pupil of my age from each of our school commissioners districts every year. And if I am a member of your school board I can do any legitimate work to that end, I am willing to do it. I hope that this will not ruffle up the lichenous growth of any moss back.

I may be wrong, but I believe that the press of the county will not enter any opposition to such a felon. And in my confidence I wish right here to tell my young readers a few things that I learned and saw in rooms on Comparative Anatomy in the National Museum. First in my conversation with Professor Powell on the extinct Dinosaurs, he told me of a skeleton of a Brown Tossaurus that had recently been found in Wyoming. That in life the full length of the animal was 120 feet, weight 60 tons—the head and twenty thousand pounds, its foot three feet square, and the capacity of its stomach would enable it to eat three average size elephants in one meal! Now some persons may say, "How that Professor did stuff Mr. Hardesty." Well, let us see if he did. I am sure where we were talking there is

the skeleton of the extinct Megatherium or ground sloth. Its length is twenty feet, the spread of the pelvic bones six feet and the other parts so proportioned as to have enabled it to take at one meal fifteen or twenty of the largest South American sloths of our day, or the same number of large Florida razor backs, if it had been a carnivorous animal, which it was not.

One more. Eight or nine years ago there was caught at Sebastian a Manatee that was said to have weighed 2,028 pounds! Well, there is suspended here a skeleton of its Arctic cousin, long since extinct, called Hydrodamalis gigas, that could have very comfortably eaten the Sebastian manatee for breakfast unless it had lived on sea grass as ours do.

One more. There is a full skeleton of a species of Dinosaur, the skull of which is six feet long and the balance of it is 22-28 feet. Now, there is only the skull here of another of the same species that is ten feet long! How many boys and girls who read this will send to THE TRIBUNE the proportionate length of the Dinosaur that carried that head? Let it suffice that if he was fond of beef he could have eaten at one meal at least five or six Florida beeves.

I shall start for Jamestown in a few days, where I shall doubtless see many interesting things about which I hope to write you.

Yours truly,

B. F. HARDESTY.

Washington, D. C., July 12, 1907.

OF THE "DAYS OF AULD LANG SYNE."

Capt. W. J. Tucker, of Fort Pierce, prominent in the politics of the State and well known throughout Florida as a member of the State Democratic Executive Committee, left Thursday morning for Jacksonville, where he goes to spend the 67th anniversary of his birth with his life long friend and fellow veteran of the Indian War, Mr. A. C. Martin. Capt. Tucker and Mr. Martin were soldiers and comrades in the long and stubborn conflict between the United States and the picturesque followers of Osceola, and they will, doubtless, spend a most delightful day in rehearsing the stirring events of long ago and living over again the comradeship of former years.

Capt. Tucker was born in Newnansville, Florida, July 26th, 1840, and is therefore 67 years of age. He is a veteran of two wars, having served three years in the Indian War and three and a half in the Civil War, aggregating altogether six and a half years of active service as a soldier in the defense of his native land.

Though approximating pretty closely the proverbial "three score and ten" still he is active and robust and has the springy step of a man of forty. The utmost sobriety combined with a life of constant activity have, doubtless, contributed much toward the physical vigor of his latter years and bid fair to carry him through and beyond many more mile stones of time before the old soldier shall answer the final roll call. We wish him a day of tranquil enjoyment and many returns of the day.

RESOLUTIONS OF LOCAL ODD FELLOWS

WHEREAS, The Allwise Creator has seen fit to call from our midst Brother Lewis M. Dawson, therefore be it

Resolved, That while we bow in humble submission to the Divine Edict, yet we mourn the loss of Brother Dawson as a faithful brother and an honorable and upright citizen, and be it further

Resolved, That in expressing our deep and sincere sympathy, we extend to the bereaved family in the hour of their distress the open hand of Odd Fellowship, and earnestly commend them to the care of Him who alone can heal their wounds, and be it further

Resolved, That a page in our minute book be inscribed to the memory of our departed brother, that our charter be draped in mourning for a period of thirty days, that a copy of these resolutions be given each of our papers for publication, and a copy sent to the family of the deceased.

W. R. JACKSON,
F. E. WILSON,
F. E. WATKINS, Committee.

FLORIDA IN SUMMER TIME

Compares Favorably with Some Boasted Summer Resorts.

WRITER IS DELIGHTED

W. H. Hardesty Compares Florida Summer With That of the North—to Florida's Credit

The following article was written by W. H. Hardesty, of THE TRIBUNE staff, (who recently came from Illinois), and appeared in a late issue of the local newspaper in his former home.

"Florida, the tourists' delight, that is, such tourists as have the nerve to go against foreign opinions of her, is one of the brightest smiling maidens in the whole galaxy. True, the East Coast shows her teeth in June, when mosquitoes and sand flies are at their worst, but this, we are assured, is only for a comparatively short period. Of one thing we have proven the truth, and that is, that without these pests, the East Coast of Florida, or such part of it as the writer has been privileged to see, compares quite favorably with Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska and other states lying in that latitude, as to temperature. Of Old Illinois, though we love her as the place of our birth and our abiding place for better than thirty years, we can truly say that Florida, as seen from Fort Pierce, has her badly worsted in this respect. Since coming here we have experienced what the natives are pleased to call 'the hottest season experienced,' and the thermometer registering only about 95 degrees, with a delightful breeze coming in across the Indian river from the broad expanse of the Atlantic to alleviate the distress of the acclimated residents, the writer needed no relief, as such weather seemed very moderate to us. Why, bless your heart, in Illinois such weather in the month of June would be welcomed as a boon, for we have known the temperature often to range considerably above 100 degrees during that time, and that with very slight abatement throughout the night. During such periods of oppressive heat it was not uncommon to experience a perfect calm, not a breath of air stirring, and verily the nights were stifling. Not so in Florida, at least in Fort Pierce. Here, with the thermometer never above 98, a nice breeze after 9:00 a. m., with cool nights and mornings and the heat in no wise oppressive except from 7:00 to 9:00 a. m., and at no other time during the twenty-four hours, we believe that we may safely say that (barring the 'bugs') the East Coast of Florida is not only delightful as a winter resort, but also a place of rest, recreation and sport during what in most localities is known as the 'heat-ed term.'

"Then add to this salubrious climate the extremely profitable propagation of pineapples, oranges, lemons, limes, grape fruit, guavas and bananas at this point and certainly the prospect is alluring. Besides, the immediate surrounding country is adapted to all varieties of vegetables and successful farming may be carried on, not like the states enumerated, during the summer season only, and then roll up like the deer-mouse and wait till 'next spring,' in the meantime spending all you've made in summer to keep you through the winter, but some certain varieties may be grown in certain seasons throughout the entire twelve months of the year."

"Further, or to the lower end of Lower Metacumbe Key, the building operations will be further facilitated and expedited. Another significant step in the culmination of this gigantic and hazardous enterprise is that the operations on the trestle, which is to span the deep and treacherous waters of Bahia Honda channel, are to be commenced at once, a camp being established there within the next few days. Ever since the project of building the extension was first launched, the problem of trestling and spanning Bahia Honda presented the most difficult problem. If this can be done the success of the enterprise is assured. The engineers and promoters are sanguine of the result, and the attempt is now to be made. This is taken to mean that the trestling of the channel at Knight's Key is to be delayed until the Bahia Honda problem has been solved. The water at Knight's Key is deep, with a fairly good harbor and it will be maintained as a sort of port for landing ships and cargoes while the other work is in progress. All of the work at the various points along the line is progressing entirely satisfactorily. At Jewish Creek preparations are now under way for building an immense trestle. This trestle will be mostly of piling, an idea of its length being had by the fact that the company expects to use forty thousand piling regularly in the building of it.

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CASES REMARKABLE IN THEIR SIMILARITY

In the Fort Myers Press of June 27 is an account of the death of Dr. Joseph F. Shands, one of Lee county's prominent citizens, the particulars of which coincide most remarkably with the late C. P. Platts, of our own county.

Dr. Shands had just gone to Atlanta for treatment when he succumbed to the same disease that hastened Dr. Platts' death, pernicious anaemia, and died on Sunday, June 23 three days before Dr. Platts. The body was embalmed and brought to Fort Myers and buried with Masonic honors.

Like Dr. Platts, Dr. Shands was very prominent in the educational affairs of the State, having served as chairman of the school boards in Hernando and Nassau counties and was at the time of his death superintendent of public instruction in Lee county.

Thus the State lost two remarkable men near the same time, dying of the same disease, which is a rare one to medical science, and under almost the same circumstances, buried by the same order, and mourned by the many who felt the uplifting influence of their fruitful lives.

Cards of Thanks

For the many kind attentions and expressions of sympathy, both during and since my husband's late illness, I wish to express my heartfelt thanks and grateful appreciation.

MRS. L. M. DAWSON.

We wish to extend our sincere thanks to the kind friends for their sympathy and assistance during our recent loss of a loving husband and father.

MRS. C. P. STANFORD AND CHILDREN.

GONE TO INVESTIGATE GOOD ROAD MACHINES

Last Sunday Chas. H. Edwards, of Fort Pierce, J. F. Bell, of White City, J. H. Baker, of Jensen, Peter Raulerson, of Tantie, and P. Kroegel, of Sebastian, composing the board of county commissioners, left for Atlanta, Ga., where they went to investigate some good road machinery, going at the expense of the manufacturers. On their way home they will also stop in Gainesville, Fla., where they will see another make of machine in actual operation. Commenting on this trip of the commissioners, one of the Jacksonville newspapers says that one of these makes of road machines can be purchased in Duval or Volusia county, cheap, as they have been abandoned. It is very probable that our commissioners will put the machine to every possible test before making a purchase, and will secure for St. Lucie county a machine that will thoroughly answer the purpose for all time to come—if they purchase at all.

A REPETITION OF HISTORY

Story of the Great Leader Marcus Manilius Modernized

STRUGGLE OF THE WEST

E. T. R. Fripp, of the White City Socialist Local, Calls Attention to Present Significant Situation.

EDITOR TRIBUNE:

History repeats itself. In our school days how one's heart was moved with sorrow for the death of Marcus Manilius Capitolinus hurled from the Tarpeian rock to an ignominious death, condemned as an ambitious conspirator against the Republic. The greater sorrow to our young patriotic souls was that we were led to believe the charges were true concerning this once "noblest Roman of them all." The truth has at last been made manifest.

Manilius belonged to a noble family of the patrician order, but after saving Rome by a most heroic defense of the Capitoline citadel against the Gauls, he turned away from the alluring prospects of wealth and power the state was ready to heap upon him, preferring to suffer persecution with the down trodden working class; he espoused their cause. Through the trade unions, strengthened by the laws of Numa Pompilius, (king after Romulus) the Plebs, a work people, had gained considerable power in the government, but the devastation of the country by the Gallic invasion so impoverished the working class that they then paid but little attention to politics, being so absorbed in the bread problem, that the Patricians (capitalist class) took advantage of it to infringe on the rights of the former.

Marcus Manilius strove to regain for the oppressed what political and economic advantages they had thus lost. The Patricians so resented the endeavor, though until then idolizing Manilius as the savior of Rome, now plotted his judicial murder through trumped up charges, without any foundation whatever, of conspiracy to overthrow the republic and make himself king. Historians (being of the patrician order) were unwilling, it appears, to give the true version of that murderous trial perpetrated by their own class. But whatever inkling posterity may have had concerning its gross injustice has been more than verified by records unearthed in recent years from buried cities. They are records of the trade unions, which prove that Manilius was a martyr to the cause of liberty—liberty of the toiling masses from oppressive wage slavery to which the capitalist patricians were aiming to reduce them.

How much this reads like what is transpiring in our own country! A closer parallel cannot be found in history. The miners of the great mining states and territories of the west seeing their interests imperilled by the formation of the "Mine Owners' Association," sought to protect themselves against organized greed by forming the Western Federation of Miners, by means of which they succeeded in having laws passed in their interest in several mining states and territories, securing safe conditions of mining and healthful environment. The eight hour day law was enacted by nearly all of the legislatures, for it was pronounced by scientists that longer hours for the miners and smelters was injurious to the health and would greatly shorten life. The two thirds majority for it in Colorado was resisted by the mine owners, which resulted in many strikes. Then began a reign of terror for the unions though innocent of crime. Thugs and detectives were employed to incite to violence. Failing in that they made violence themselves which beggars description. See Report of the United States Labor Commissioner, Carrol D. Wright. The evidence before the court in Idaho develops the plot of the "Mine Owners' Association" to break up the "Western Federation of Miners" in order to Mexicanize the west. The consummation of the plot is to cause the judicial murder of the pure and noble leaders of the Federation whose great influence has helped to secure the rights of the work-

(continued on page 6)